

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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O 221209Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7015

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3300

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER PUJA'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 231004

1. FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY'S VIEWS RE APPROACH FONMIN PUJA IS
LIKELY TO TAKE IN HIS CALL ON SECRETARY SEPT 24 (REFTEL).

2. PUJA WILL BEGIN BY WELCOMING OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH
SECRETARY ONCE AGAIN AND TO RENEW DIALOGUE BEGUN LAST YEAR AT
HELSINKI. HE WILL SAY GOH IS PLEASED WITH PROGRESS MADE IN
BILATERAL RELATIONS SINCE THAT TIME AND WILL CITE AS EXAMPLES
OF PROGRESS SZEKER VISIT TO U.S. LAST MAY (HE MAY EVEN MENTION
MORTON, BUTZ, AND INGERSOLL VISITS SINCE HE SEEMS TO THINK
CABINET-LEVEL EXCHANGES BEGAN AS RESULT OF HIS HELSINKI CALL
ON SECRETARY), IMMINENT INITIALING OF CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC
AGREEMENT, PRESENCE IN U.S. OF MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE ROMANY
AND HUNGARIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DELEGATION. HE WILL DECLARE
GOH READINESS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS SOON ON WWI FLOUR DEBT
AND WILL SPEAK FAVORABLY OF U.S.-HUNGARIAN VISA ARRANGE-
MENT.

3. PUJA ALSO LIKELY TO SAY THAT GOH REGRETS BUT RECOGNIZES
THAT ON TWO MAJOR BILATERAL ISSUES TIMING IS NOT PROPITIOUS
FOR REACHING SATISFACTORY SOLUTION. GOH IS PATIENT,
HOPEFUL THAT IN DUE COURSE MFN PROBLEM WILL BE RESOLVED
AND CRWON OF ST. STEPHAN RETURNED. MEANWHILE, GOH WILL
CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH U.S. IT
WELCOMES CONTINUATION OF POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND IS PLEASED
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THAT COMMERCE SECRETARY RICHARDSON PLANS TO VISIT BUDAPEST

IN NOVEMBER AND THAT PRESIDENTIAL AIDE WILLIAM GOROG IS NOW IN BUDAPEST. GOH WELCOMES PROSPECT OF PUTTING RELATIONS INTO BROADER CONTEXT, AS SZEKER HAD MENTIONED DURING HIS CALL ON PRESIDENT LAST MAY (STATE 123525), (IN REFTEL HUNGARIAN SUGGESTION ALONG THIS LINE WAS SOMEWHAT OBLIQUE AND VAGUE; PUJA MAY BE PREPARED TO BE MORE EXPLICIT AND TO MENTION EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND/OR LAZAR). AT SAME TIME PUJA WILL ALSO AT SOME POINT MENTION THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN U.S. AND HUNGARY ON MANY INTERNATIONAL ISSUES BUT CONSISTENT WITH SPIRIT OF HELSINKI AND ITS POLICY OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE GOH STANDS READY TO CONTINUE NORMALIZATION PROCESS WITH STATES HAVING DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS. NEAR TO OR AT CLOSE OF HIS CALL PUJA WILL EXTEND AN INVITATION TO SECRETARY TO VISIT HUNGARY.

4. ORIGINAL (AND WE MIGHT ADD OSTENSIBLE) REASON FOR PUJA TO VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS TO INSPECT NEW HUNGARIAN EMBASSY. DEPENDING ON HIS FINDINGS HE WILL PROBABLY EITHER THANK SECRETARY FOR DEPARTMENT'S PAST ASSISTANCE ON VARIOUS PROBLEMS ATTENDANT TO CONSTRUCTION OF EMBASSY, OR ASK HIS HELP IN RESOLVING (TO US UNKNOWN) PROBLEMS.

5. ON MULTILATERAL SIDE PUJA IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO DELVE INTO SECRETARY'S ASSESSMENT OF AFRICAN SITUATION AND TO INQUIRE ABOUT HIS IMPRESSIONS OF HIS RECENT TRIP TO AFRICA. PUJA MIGHT MENTION OTHER TOPICS (E.G. CSCE, SLAT TALKS, MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, CHINA AND PASSING OF MAO, HUNGARY'S DIFFICULTIES WITH COMMON MARKET, ETC) IN PASSING BUT WE WOULD NOT EXPECT HIM TO GET INTO DISCUSSION OF ANY OF THEM TOO DEEPLY.

6. WE BELIEVE DEPARTMENT IS IN BETTER POSITION TO DECIDE ON WHAT TOPICS SECRETARY SHOULD RAISE WITH PUJA. THERE IS ONE, HOWEVER, WE WOULD SUGGEST -- DIVIDED FAMILIES. SECRETARY MAY WISH TO REMIND PUJA OF CONTINUING PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN DIVIDED FAMILY CASES. SECRETARY CAN NOTE HIS PERSONAL PLEASURE AT PROGRESS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IN RESOLVING PARTICULAR CASES, ESPECIALLY ONES INVOLVING CHILDREN DIVIDED FROM PARENTS. SECRETARY
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COULD USEFULLY POINT OUT THAT USG ITSELF CAREFULLY EXAMINES HUMANITARIAN MERITS OF INDIVIDUAL CASES BEFORE EMBASSY RAISES THEM WITH MFA CONSULAR DEPARTMENT. USG REMAINS WILLING TO HANDLE DIVIDED FAMILY MATTERS QUIETLY, AS GOH ITSELF HAS SUGGESTED, ON ASSUMPTION THERE WILL BE CONTINUED PROGRESS.

7. GENERAL BACKGROUND PIECE ON PUJA AND HIS PERSONALITY

FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
MUDD

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